THERE'S NO FISH GAMIER THAN THE BASS.

are's a Letter About This Lively In habitant of the Waters by a Man Who Knows What He Is Talking About. The Bass a "Native American."

[Special Correspondence.] NEW YORK, April 13.-Were it possible for a fisherman, when duly armed with rod, reel, creel and landing net, to allow any subject but that of fish to fill his mind were he not superior to all of the so called otions, he might, when looking at a black buss lying before him in beauty and pride, patriotically reflect that the fish is native to America. True, it may be found now in Europe, as the result of that science which can transplant a fish as easily as a potato, but originally it belonged to bs, and in itself constitutes one of the treasures of this western continent. The range of the black bass was originally wide enough. With the exception of the Atlantic seaboard and the New England states, it swam in waters from Canada on the north to Mexico on the south and as far west as the Rocky mountains. At the ent time there is no portion of the country in which it may not be found.

No fish has been known by more names Scientifically he is burdened with two-Micropterus dolomien, for the small mouth, and Micropterus salmoides, for the largebut those who love him, and these are they who have fought him fairly and won, never even dream of him under such titles. is popularly known as bass-black bass, green bass, yellow bass, river bass, bayon bass, slough bass, lake bass, moss bass, bass, Oswego bass, perch, black yellow perch, trout perch, jumping Welshman, salmon, trout, black white trout, chub, southern chub ad Roanoke chub. There are, however out two varieties of the fish-the big and little mouth. The coloring, which is won-derfully different in different waters, is

urely the result of local causes. He is a handsome fish. It would be useless to describe him here, for every fisherman has at least seen him and is familiar with his lines. The underhung jaw, the heavy shoulders, the fine run and the broad tail, which drives him at such lightning speed when there is a minnow in sight, have been looked at and admired often

enough.

But what no one knows save the man who has fished for and caught the black

bass is that the as full of fight as the most savage trout that ever took fly. It is popularly be-lieved among fishermen that the small mouth is the better fighter. I cannot say I have been personally able to notice this. I have had just as hard a time with a two pound nine onnce big mouth as ever his consins and as the fish in question fought me for over thirtyseven minutes he won the right to

THE BLACK BASS. So long as the fish do not weigh over three pounds -for above that weight they become loggy lose their spirit-it matters little which you have on the end of your line. will give you all the sport you can ask for, and either will be a forman worthy of the best tackle you have.

Black bass may be caught with the fly, with the minnow, by casting or by trolling. The rods used for the first two methods differ of course, as do all fly rods, from those for easting live bait. The fly rod for black bass should weigh at least ten ounces, because as this fish sometimes runs to great weights you need a heavy enough rod to handle a heavy catch. The flies should be rather larger than those for coloring. They should be tied on hooks with double guts. Generally speaking, the black, brown, yellow, red and gray backies will kill in any water. Of the winged flies, which are, as a rule, not as good as the backles, the best are the Professor, the an, the Ibis, the Quaker and the Griszly King. Of course your fly book will have a moth or two, and at least one umblebee will not be out of place.

For casting live bait the rod should be moderately stiff, with ash butt and lancewood above it. It should not be more than ight feet long. The reel should be a multiplier for ease in casting, and the braided silk line may not be improved on. The leader must be made of the very best silk worm gut, round and true at every point and reasonably heavy. Remember that a fighting black bass, when he gets thoroughly waked up, is going to put every through, and as he may take your leader into the weeds, and certainly will if he gets a chance, you must have everything strong

It is as impossible to describe live bait casting as it is to teach a man to cast flies by written words. I know of but one piece of advice to give in case a man has never tried it. Cast! You won't cast right, and there will be a back lash in the reel that will snarl everything. Never mind; cast away, and in time you will learn the mys

The black bass in the season is very sus ceptible of the lure offered by the spoon when trolling. But you can beighten the enjoyment by using a minnow, as then lighter tackle may be employed and there is some chance for play. In fastening the w on pass the hook down and out of one of the gills, and then hook it carefully through the broad part of the back, avoid-ing the bone. If this be done properly the sait will spin well and will almost certainly be taken, providing there is a fish within

A necessary part of the equipment is a landing net of good size. This is particularly useful when you are fishing from a boat, for the black bass always seem to re serve enough strength to enable them to make those final dashes which are often tructive to tackle, particularly when they dart under the boat itself and thus

get a purchase on the line. From the results already observed it has been settled that no fish pays better for lanting or hatching than the black bass. He is hardy and grows rapidly, he can take care of himself in any water and gainst any other fish, and he increas rapidly, being very prolific. Stocking s lake, therefore, means increased value for the land around it as fishermen are never

Wasn Baby was their, we gave her Casteria When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria, When she became Miss, she ching to Casteria, When she had Children, she gave them Casteria,

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Similarly in the capital of Missis-Barnum assured him that there could be no doubt of it, but that he didn't like the sippi they know the "man from the swamp" eaning the Yazoo district) at sight, and fish's name. in an Illinois or Indiana state convention What is it?" asked Clark. experienced reporters can often tell what "Tadpole," replied Barnum, "but vulgarpart of the state a new delegate is from as

No fish in the world will give more sport than the black bass. He fights as long as there is strength in him, nor is it an unequal fight either. His habit of taking to the weeds or if he can find them, to the sunken logs, will often result in the broken tackle coming home, greatly to the fisherman's disgust. But if you nationce and skill you shall win, finding your reward for your hard work in the anaciousness of triumph over such a gal-Nor is the result when h cooked and placed before you on the table to be despised. The flesh is somewhat coarse, but it is very sweet, and we all know the sauce supplied by the work of catching

ALFRED BALCH.

SOME BARNUM JOKES. Episodes in Which the Showman Was

Either Victim or Victimizer. [Special Correspondence.]

BHIDGEPORT, April 13.-During Mr. Bar num's long career he was a victim, or victimized many people with innocent practical jokes. He had the faculty of discern ing humor where humor existed, and was able to tell a good story to advantage.

One day, while Barnum was running the American museum, Mr. Lewis Gavlord Clark, then editor of a prominent magazine, called in to pay him a visit. Barnum was auxious for a puff and showed the editor about himself. Barnum endeavored to guide Clark past a room where there was an exhibition of "Niagara Falls, with real water," which he feared would not strike the visitor favorably. But Clark insisted on going into that particular room, and after gazing on the cata

ract a while he said: "Well, Barnum, I declare this is quite a new idea; I never saw anything like it before.1

"And I hope," he added, "I never shall Some months after Clark went into the Museum and asked Barnum if he had the club with which Captain Cook was killed. Barnum told him that he had the club, with documents to prove its identity, and

showed him a bludgeon. "Poor Cook!" said Clark. "Well, Barnum. I am much obliged. I was quite sure you could accommodate me. I've been in half a dozen smaller museums, and they all had it, so I was quite sure a large es tablishment like yours wouldn't be with-

Barnum regarded it incumbent upon him to get even with the waggish editor. A few weeks later he wrote him that he would like to consult him on a matter of importance. Clark went to Barnum's of fice, and Barnum said to him:

"Now, I don't want any nousebse. want your sober advice." Then Barnum told him of a wonderful fish of the Nile which had been offered him orfeit \$5,000 if within six weeks the fish didn't pass through a transformation in which the tail would disappear and the

fish would have legs.

"Is it possible!" said Clark

ly called pollywog." "Sold, by thunder!" exclaimed Clark.

and got away as soon as possible. Mr. Barnum once came very near being ridden on a rail. He was quite a young man and was traveling in partnership with Aaron Turner. At Annapolis Mr. Turner played a practical joke on his partner, which might have resulted seriously, They arrived on Saturday night and Bar num bought a new sult of black clothes. On Sunday morning he put it on and was strolling about when Turner saw him. He called the attention of several persons about him to the young man in the black

suit and said: "I think it singular that you permit that rascal to march your streets in open day. It wouldn't be permitted in Rhode Island, and that is the reason, I suppose, why the black coated villain is bere

"Who is he?" asked the lookers on.

"Don't you know him? He's the Rev. E. K. Avery, the murderer." "Is it possible!" they all exclaimed, starting to the door. The murder of a

Miss Cornell by Avery was then fresh in Suddenly Barnum heard a mob shouting about his ears: "The sanctified murderer!" "The black coated villain!" "Lynch him?"

"Tar and feather him!" while half a dozen men came up carrying a rail. 'Come, old chap," said one, "straddle the rail.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the show man, "what have I done?"
"We know you. You needn't roll your sanctimonious eyes. Come, straddle the

Barnum begged them not to kill him, but to tell him what he had done. 'It's no use, Mr. Avery, we know you."

"My name is not Avery, gentlemen. You are mistaken!" cried the showman in Then it flashed upon Barnum that Turner was responsible, and with great effort he finally induced them to believe They took him to Turner, whom he begged to explain. Turner exploded with

laughter, and told them that perhaps he was mistaken. Barnum's life was full of these episodes. At that time there was a passion for prac-tical jokes in America, and they were carried to an extent that would scarcely be tolerated at the present day, but Barnum always seemed to get the best of it in the end, and had a tongue capable of turning

Local Types in the United States. There is no other nation whose individual units change places so often or mingle and reorganise new groups so fre quently as the Americans, and well for us that it is so. Yet, in spite of it, local types are becoming very marked and local peculiarities fixed. The little darkies in Baltimore recognize the "eastern shore darky" at sight, though a visiting white man can see no difference whatever, and even the street gamins in New York can point out the new man from a remote vil- do is to give the public warning before is

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all so rapidly as that?

A novel method for quieting the nerves

load to the active brain. Another way is

to knot a towel so that the knots com-

press those veins below the ear. Rest the head in an easy and comfortable position

He Meant Business.

Didn't I just throw you down stairs?"

"You did, sir," was the reply, "and I

"Get out of here! I told you that I don't

"Excuse me one moment," said the ped-

dler. "Let me take your order for a pair

of shoes. I notice you are wearing carpet

Reaching his room, Cholly slipped on his

Italy Has All the Best of It.

and I for one am for peace."

city editor.

"We're getting all the worst of it,

"What ought to be stopped " asked the

This Italian business. It's terrible the

turn affairs have taken. A man's life is hardly safe on the street."

"Another outrage?" asked the city editor,

as in his excitement he dipped his pen into

the paste pot.
"Outrage" exclaimed the stranger. "It's

war-war of retaliation. Every Italian in the city is in it, I believe."

"Um. Serious matter!" said the city ed-

slippers."-Grand Rapids Democrat,

inquired a Monroe street lawyer to the ped-

and sleep will soon visit you.

dler as he entered.

want to buy anything."

just returned'

TINWARE. Job Work of all kinds promptly attended to, 213 South Main, Wichita, Kan.

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goes any further. Then we must have immediate peace or war. I'm for peace, for they have the best of us."

his pipe in the inkwell and put the pen-"Are you sure of your ground?" he asked thoughtfully. Are climate and surroundings changing us "No. That's just what I'm not sure of.

But I know the plan all right," "What is it?" "They have a corner on the banana man is that of pressing the fingers on each side of the neck below the ear, thus constricting the blood vessels which convey their

ket and are throwing the skins on the side-walk. That's why I'm not sure of"— Inkwell, pipe and paste pot followed the stranger as he made his hasty exit.-Chi-

A boy discovered a horseshoe lying on Woodward avenue near Elizabeth the other day, and after standing over it for awhile he went into a store and got a pail over the shoe and then picked it up. Several people noticed his action and laughed over it, and one pedestrian queried:
"Did you think there was a fire under it,

"You can't tell about these things, you know," was the reply. "I've picked three of them up in blacksmith shops and let go of 'em again as hard as I could, and I don't propose to take any more chances. -Detroit Free Press.

Hadn't the Desired Effect "Your pride in these beautiful and well kept grounds, ma'am," said the seedy tramp blandly, as he leaned against the fence and addressed the lady on the inside, "is entirely pardonable. Might I venture

to ask if you have any cold"-Pardonable!" exclaimed the lady sharp-"Who's asking anybody's pardon for being proud of them? You move on?"

And he moved on. He had selected the

A Dreadful Threat. An Austin colored man, with protruding eyes, rushed into Justice Tegener's office and exclaimed:

"I wants Colonel Jones, who libs next

bond to keep the peace."
"Has be threatened your life?" 'He has done dat berry ding. He said he war gwine ter fill de next niggah he found after dark in his hen house plum "Here, this thing ought to be stopped!"he exclaimed, as he rushed into the city editor's full ob buckshot. "-Texas Siftings.

He Downed It. "I mastered French in six lessons," said the list.

"Yes, I supposed so," said the cynic: "I noticed you never allowed the language to have its own way when you tried to talk it."-St. Joseph News.

Commercial Item. Hostetter McGinnis-How is it, Mr. Schaumburg, that you can make money when you sell your goods at cost? e Schaumburg-Pecause I purs my goots below cost.-Texas Siftings.

"Serious! I should say so. But I'm Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria. onto the plan, and the best thing we can

## A TRAMP WITH NERVE

HE WAS USED TO DIGGING UP CORPSES AND DIDN'T FEAR GHOSTS.

A Trick That Failed to Work in One Co The Vagrant Was at Home in a Grave yard as Some Prominent Business Men Learned After an Attempt to Scare Him.

Will J. Davis told the saunterer a tale that smacks of the flavor of frontier life and is so different from the usual type of floating anecdotes that it is worth a place in a newspaper. He calls it the story of the tramp with nerve. The scene is a pros-perous little town on the Union Pacific road. There the engine had to stop for water and from there also a stage line or two diverged, so that it was a bustling metropolis for a small town on the wide plains. But the place had a greater reputation than the stage line or its commer-cial importance could give it. It was the station where the tramps were "fired" from the trains coming east and going west. They were so many in number that they became a great nuisance, for they had to be cared for in some way, else the results

of their predatory excursions would cause general sorrow. The business men were all a healthy, ro-bust, jolly lot of fellows, every one ready and anxious to play a practical joke when he could do it without endangering his own physical welfare. They put their heads to-gether—for there is wisdom in a multitude of counsel—and finally a plan of campaign was agreed upon. Each new tramp visitor was to be met by a committee of one, who would formally wish him all sorts of bodily comfort and material success with mental serenity. He would be escorted to the leading restaurant, and at the town's extopped off by a satisfying drink and a good

THE GREAT SCHEME And when the victuals and viands had warmed him up to a condition of mellow-ness and the fumes of a first class cigar had lulled his brain into a placid state this committeeman unravaled to him a scheme that would pan out rich to any one under-taking it. It was this: A rich and miserly woman, so the narrative ran, had died a few days ago, and her last request was that her diamonds, valued at \$19,000, should be sewed up under her left arm and buried with her. It was the desire of the commit-teeman to undertake this job of resurrect. ing the body and getting the dismonds, and there was only one obstacle in the CHAS. LAWRENCE, way. He could get no one to go in with Photograhers'. Supplies!

him.

Every one in town was too cowardly and offer made by a local jeweler that he would give \$2,500 spot cash for the jewels. "If you go in with me," the committeeman would remark, 'you can have one-half in would remark, you can have one-hair in hard dollars, or \$1,250." The offer was always accepted and the fun began without delay. The citizens had on hand a lot of the tools of a grave resurrectionist, all ready for use. This joke was played on every tramp on the day of his arrival, and so that no time should be lost and no more money expended in his care than was absolutely necessary the same night was the time fixed for the decc.

In anticipation of the arrival of vagrants a committeeman was appointed each day, There was great disappointment in the town when the diurnal tramp failed to put in an appearance, Generally they were quite punctual. Their visits averaged five a week. The tramp of nerve came on the day that Will Davis, calmly waiting his arrival when the train pulled in, was to offi-ciate. He was a dirty, greasy, wholly di-lapidated appearing fellow, with a desper-ate air and a determined pock marked face.

The word was passed round that the vic-tim had come. Will Davis treated him as the other distinguished visitors had been treated-with an excellent dinner and cigars. He was at the top notch of physical comfort. A hearty dinner, old rye and a Havana have a wonderful effect on tramp's nature.

IN THE CEMETERY broached. The man thought it a capital idea and a mighty good way to earn a pile of money. "Pard, I can give you some points on raising 'stiffs,' " he said to Davis.
"I'm an old hand at the business and no one can do a better piece of work in that line than I can." So the preparations were completed and the two waited for nightfall. The town lokers also got ready. In due time Davis and his friend went to the cemetery with their tools and rigging

The city editor stuck the mouthpiece of and commenced to work. By way of digression it may be stated that twelve or fifteen fellows supplied themselves with white sheets and rev and also went to the graveyard beforehand. Each one threw the sheet about him and hid behind a convenient gravestone. In the midst of the resurrection proceedings of course it was on a mound prepared for the purpose that they operated-these figures would rise up simul taneously and with a series of unearthly yells would fire off the blank cartridges with which the revolvers were loaded.

The committeeman would beg his friend the tramp to fly for his life, and in every case heretofore the tramp had dropped spade and tackle, and with yells outvying the ghostly apparition would take to his heels and get him out of sight as far as his legs would carry him. He would never ome back again, and that was the way the town got rid of its tramp visitors and had heaps of fun in securing that result. But Will Davis' tramp was another kind

of breed. When he had dug a big hole and seemed to be in a fair way of reaching the buried treasure the figures rose up accord ing to custom and began firing. Davis ed over and exclaimed: "Oh, I'm sh I'm killed. Run, run for year life." Did the tramp run? Not a bit of it. He turned to Davis and in a courageous voice said: "Partner, I'm here with you, and I'm going to stay with you." And he took a big revolver from each of his hip pockets and egan to fire, directing his bullets where he thought the other shots came from. He fired real balls, and Davis said that he could hear them ringing against the grave ones, and he trembled for the safety of

his joking comrades. The way those jokers got out of that cemetery was a caution. They did not run, but like a lot of snakes they wriggled and crawled out. Fortunately no one was in jured, and it is a wonder, too, for that ramp seemed to know how to use a revol Will Davis was cally too glad to quit work and get back to town on the plea that the surprise had disjointed his nerves. It was some time after this before they treat ed their tramp visitors in a like manner .door to me, put under a million dollars

"We Hold Thee Safe."

Mrs. Couponz-Thomas says that we must economize; all his securities are drop-Mrs. Van Gelt is rich young widowi-Mine are all right, I know, I keep them in a safe-deposit vanit .- Puck.

Mrs. Peterby-Can you wash? Matilda Snowball-Ob course I kin wash Can you cook !"

"If it has ter be, ob course I kin cook." "Are you honest?" "You bet I'se honest, if I has ter be.

Down to a Fine Point. The shop of an undertaker in Candelaria, Nev., bears the following sign: "You kick the bucket. We do the reat."



I like ter see the winter anows
A kinder set lin' down,
An' here an 'there upon the hills
A patch or growin' brown.
I know the winter's slidin' by
An' soon 'll come the gettag—
I want ter see the grass an' down
An' hoar the robins sing.

I'm gittin' close for seventy-five,
An' sonce I kin remember,
There ain't no smell or taste on sirth
That tetches me ser tender
As maple sap a-biffn' down
Ter sirup in the pan.
It almost makes me feel as ef
I was a boy agin.

I was a boy agin. Sence killin' time last fall we've had.
Uv pork a stidy diet.
We've had it roast an' biled an' stowed,
An' for a change we'd fry it.
Twas sassengers an' scrape an' souse,

An' chops an' ham an' bacon Ef there ain't "brustles" on my back I'm mightily mistaken. No dishes "aller mode" for me Nor fixins "la Fransay." You needn't pass no frostin' cake

When you get round my way. But of you want ter hit my case

An' put on lots ov sirap.

- Hoston Globe.



Rev. Mr. Arlington-You should always se particular about details, Miss Tucker It is fittle things that tell. Nellie-I know that. I have three small sisters - Smith & Gray's Monthly.





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